

NEWS IN ADVANCE OF THE FRENCH MAIL.

Through the courtesy of Captain Gossion of the *Gleamers*, we have English and Indian news via Singapore to land to-day, in advance of the French mail.

(London & China Express, Aug. 5.)
The *Frédéric*, a composite gun-vessel, Commander S. H. Hickman, recently returned from China, has just arrived. The creditable inspection of the vessel, the flag captain being inspecting officer—and afterwards proceeded to Chatham, where she is preparing to pay off on the 7th inst.

The *Bonnet*, a double screw composite gun-vessel, Commander John S. Eaton, left Malta on the 3rd inst., homeward bound from the China station.

Captain F. T. Blunt, formerly of the 7th Dragoon Guards, has been appointed Chief Officer of the *Seydlitz*.

Captain Blunt was highly recommended by Sir Arthur Gordon for his services in the Mauritius, where he rendered valuable aid in the reform of the Coolie system. He was also officially employed in inquiring into the treatment of Indian Coolies in the French colony of Réunion.

It is stated that the Government have decided to promote one of the Governors of the greater colonies, either Sir Arthur Kennedy or Sir Hercules Robinson, to the post of Chief Commissioner at the Cape, vacated by Sir Bartle Frere.

The Queen has appointed Mr. George William De Villiers, C.M.G., to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Bahamas Islands.

Latest Mail Advice.—Yokohama (via San Francisco) June 18, 1880. The French mail, with the address dated as above, from China and the Straits Settlements, was delivered, via Naples, on the 27th ult., three days in advance of its due date.

The advice from Japan, via San Francisco, was received on the 28th ult. The next day, at eight A.M., it was despatched from Bristol at eight A.M. to-day, and will reach London on the 3rd inst.

Hamburg, Aug. 3.—The Chinese Ambassador, the Marquis Tseng, who arrived at St. Petersburg on the 10th ult., accompanied by Lin Kang-How, who holds the office of a privy councillor, the two secretaries, Hailiang Maartony and Prosper Giquel, the three attendants, in the suite, and a large number of military and civil servants. The Ambassador, who stayed several days at the German metropolis, seeing minutely as much as possible, and receiving in the most cordial manner by the Chinese Ambassador residing at Berlin, who had ordered as many as two saloons, six sleeping rooms, three dressing rooms, and thirteen servants' rooms, for his countrymen in the splendid hotel Kaiserhof.

The main suite, in the suite, in which the reception took place in full Chinese style, was splendidly ornamented and decorated with flowers, especially roses, and his Excellency appeared to be very well satisfied as well with his brilliant colleagues as with the main suite.

The Ambassador has since continued his voyage, and a telegram already reports his safe arrival at the capital on the 10th.

On Wednesday last the new ironclad corvette *Baden*, a sister ship to the formidable *Taschen*, was handed over to the presence of the Crown Prince, who by throwing the usual bottle of champagne against the bows gave the vessel her present name.

On the same day the trials with fish-torpedoes took place, on which occasion a *Whitbread* torpedo was fired under the nose of the water against the old steamship *Barbarossa*. The torpedo, which was fired at a distance of 400 metres, made such a fearful hole in the starboard side of the vessel as to almost immediately sink her, giving complete satisfaction to the marine authorities.

His Excellency Chau Yih-shan, Governor of the Province of Szechuan, the Chinese Ambassador, had several interviews with the Foreign Office officials, and has understood that the agreement will be signed about the 10th inst. As we have already pointed out, however, this will only be provisional, as the Continental Powers accept the same agreement. His Excellency and suite will probably leave a few days after signing and proceed to Paris, to commence negotiations with the French Government. Subsequently they will proceed to the Hague, Berlin, and Vienna, and possibly to Rome on similar missions.

With reference to the information that the *Gleamers* (Chinese) were to be sent in the autumn to the Straits Settlements, replacing the *3rd Buffs*, who proceeded to Hongkong to take the place of the 27th (Middlesex), ordered to the Cape, we understand that the agreement will be signed about the 10th inst. As we have already pointed out, however, this will only be provisional, as the Continental Powers accept the same agreement. His Excellency and suite will probably leave a few days after signing and proceed to Paris, to commence negotiations with the French Government. Subsequently they will proceed to the Hague, Berlin, and Vienna, and possibly to Rome on similar missions.

In a recent issue we gave a list of the names of the companies of the *3rd Buffs*, and the *Company*, aggregating 38,800 tons. The *Company* have now contracted with Messrs J. and G. Thomson, of Glasgow, for a vessel of 4,100 tons, and 700-horse power. The vessel, which is to be built of steel, will be delivered in a few months.

With reference to the Mixed Court at Shanghai, a correspondent points out to us that "if a Japanese who infringes municipal regulations must be tried by his Consul according to Japanese law, it would be difficult to deny the same right to a Chinese man in his own country."

His Excellency the Marquis Tseng, the Chinese Minister and suite, arrived in St. Petersburg on the 30th ult., and negotiations were commenced with the Russian Government on the 3rd inst. The Russian press seems hopeful that matters will be terminated amicably.

His Excellency Yanagisawa Sagimatsu, the new Japanese Ambassador, to Russia, arrived at St. Petersburg on the 3rd inst., accompanied by his wife and suite. His Excellency Ida, the Minister to the Court at Vienna, has also arrived at his post.

From Madrid a telegram reports that in the event of war breaking out between Russia and China, Spain would probably increase her naval force in the Pacific, to protect her interests in those waters.

The *R. & O. steamer Thibet* has taken 240,470 to the Straits and China.

In the House of Commons on the 2nd, Lord Hartington announced that despatches just arrived from South Africa had been considered by the Government, who had come to the conclusion that there had never existed between Sir Bartle Frere and the present Minister any condition of harmony.

The despatches were received with loud cheers by the Ministerialists. This decision, Lord Hartington added, had been arrived at not without regret, for whilst Sir Bartle Frere differed from the Government on matters of policy, they recognized his high personal qualities and his many services he had rendered the country.

Lord Elcho having asked whether any opportunity would be given to those who did not sympathize with the action of the

Ministers to bring the subject before the House, Lord Hartington said, if any notice were given, the Government would consider what course they would take; but they could not be expected to offer an opportunity for challenging their policy.

LONDON TELEGRAMS.

London, Aug. 21.—In the House of Commons last night a long and animated discussion took place relating to a speech of Mr. Parnell on the 19th inst. Mr. Parnell and other Irish Members were present. Mr. Parnell said that he would be undeterred by strong and threatening language from doing his utmost to protect life and property in Ireland, while at the same time proposing measures to improve the relations between landlords and tenants.

Aug. 25.—In the House of Commons last night a long and animated discussion took place relating to a motion of Mr. Parnell that a notice of motion be given by Mr. Parnell on the 26th inst. Mr. Parnell said that he would be undeterred by strong and threatening language from doing his utmost to protect life and property in Ireland, while at the same time proposing measures to improve the relations between landlords and tenants.

Mr. Gladstone said from Gravesend to-morrow with Mr. Currie, in the steamer *Gravelly Castle*, for a cruise on the coasts of Ireland and Scotland.

The P. & O. steamer *Arctura* from Southampton, August 18, has put into Gibraltar disabled.

In the House of Commons the Chief Secretary for Ireland, in reply to a question, said that the action of the House of Commons in passing the Compensation Bill was a calamity, and that if coercive measures became necessary, he would introduce a bill which would relieve Government would not aid unjust landlords.

Aug. 26.—A notice of motion to introduce the Bill for the Montenegro-Greek question is again contemplated.

The great Powers have agreed to the English draft of a Collective Note in reply to Turkey's proposals respecting the demarcation of the frontier.

The *Daily News* of the 17th inst. that printed matter calculated so to irritate the Indian Mussulmans against the British Government has been sent from Constantinople to India.

The House of Commons has read a petition from the Merchant Shipping Grain Carriers Bill.

Aug. 27.—In the House of Commons the Secretary of State for India, in reply to a question, said that the British Minister at Tehran had communicated to the Viceroy of India the names of the persons who were of the force with Ayub Khan. His Lordship also said that the Government had no exact knowledge from the Indian Government as to when General Burrows ordered the advance of his force.

INDIAN TELEGRAMS.

Alibabad, Aug. 17.—General Hughes' Brigade and headquarters arrived at Gundamak from Kabul on the 10th. There are good reasons for a halt at Gundamak. The British force has had two successive days of exceedingly hard marching and are much knocked up and need rest. A large quantity of ordnance stores has also to be brought along. There is some uncertainty as to whether the force will remain at Gundamak or advance to the next halting place. The difficulty of moving stores, of which a great quantity is collected there, may necessitate a few days' delay; otherwise the force will probably proceed direct to India by Gerdak.

Aug. 18.—The 15th some ten days and a difficulty of Guides were sent back a few miles towards Jugguluk in search of a place reported to be missing. About four miles from Peshawar, in the bed of the stream, they came across a party of marauders who fired a volley killing one horse and wounding another. No men were hurt, and they returned to Peshawar.

Kabul continues quiet. Any news to the contrary is incorrect. Abdul Rasul, the new Governor of Jalalabad, has been sent to his post. He is a native of the place, as the present Governor, Sir David Khan, hearing of the new appointment, has retired to Besud. Jalalabad, however, is reported quiet.

Aug. 20.—During the action of the 27th, General Hughes behaved with great gallantry and had two horses shot under him. His personal staff suffered severely. Captain Heath was killed and Major Leach was wounded. Colonel St. John's horse was also wounded.

The Chief of the Murris has sent his son to the 15th to express his regret for the loss of the Railway convoys, and promises to punish the raiders.

Aug. 27.—No news from Kandahar. There is reason to believe that the information that the Murris had been killed is ill-founded. There is no cholera at Peshawar now. Mr. Griffin has left for Simla.

Sch. *Baba Tiro* Peshawar, Aug. 13.—We had a last view of Kabul to-day from the top of the mountain. The whole force of the British army was visible. There has not been a single hitch in the arrangements nor any accident. With this large force, the line of march of which extends for miles, are thousands of sheep and cattle, the property of private owners going down to India.

Some 200 Indian pilgrims, en route to Mecca, have taken advantage of the protection afforded them and are accompanying the force. Sir David Khan, late Governor of Ghazni, and Amin ud-Daula Khan are also with the force on their way to India, and many Hindos from Kabul City. The news from Kabul is that the Amir entered Sherpur yesterday, the 12th in great state, where he is living in General Roberts' quarters. Salutes were fired on the occasion. The Amir is being largely responded to. In the evening Yusuf Khan gave a dinner to over a thousand persons. All continues perfectly quiet at Kabul and the neighbourhood.

Quetta, Aug. 10.—It is reported from Koch Anah that there is still a large gathering of Zhoobies and Pathan tribesmen under Shah Jehan in the surrounding hills. Colonel Bome has been ordered to proceed with two mountain guns from Asad Khan in Pishin, to disperse them. Captain Lunge, of the 5th Buffs, has also been ordered to proceed with a large body of British troops, and has collected on the Kandahar side for Gwaja Pass beyond Spin Tangi. General Hughes' Brigade arrived at Fort Batty to-day, with headquarters at all.

Aug. 20.—The sortie is confirmed. In consequence of the force despatched by Ayub against Chaman & Gwaja have been recalled. At Kandahar the troops' health is good, but in the city food is scarce, and things are abundant. The weather is cool. The British force has eleven regiments of infantry, 32 guns, and numerous cavalry.

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Truck, Stayer, Marsh, and Wood; and Rev. Mr. Gordon. The wounded included, Nimmo, Vandelaar, and Wood severely, also Malmesbury and Sewell. The enemy show a few shells into the city occasionally, and their sharpshooters fire on the ramparts but with very little effect. General Roberts was expected at Kalat-Ghizil yesterday.

Simla, Aug. 27.—The Viceroy's chaplain is suffering from a serious fever like typhoid. Anxiety is felt on his behalf.

Bombay, Aug. 17.—The Town Hall was crowded, this evening, in response to the Governor's desire that a public meeting should be held in Bombay to raise a Patriotic Fund for the relief of the families of Europeans and native soldiers who have fallen in the Afghan war. His Excellency the Governor who, much to the satisfaction of the public, presided on the occasion, spoke with much animation on the subject. The Hon. Mr. Ashburner and Mr. Rensselaer were present. The Commander-in-Chief of the Bombay Army, Lord Roberts, presided on the occasion of the meeting of the public at the Town Hall. About 1,000 people subscribed in the hall. The leaders of the Parsis, Hindus, Mohammedans and Hebrew communities spoke. A large and influential Committee, including several Native Chiefs, has been appointed. Nearly Rs. 10,000 was subscribed.

Government House, North of Public Gardens.

City Hall, Library (3,000 volumes) and Museum.—Free.

Public Gardens, a beautifully picturesque retreat and of great interest.

The Clock Tower, Queen's Road Central, in a line with Pedder's Wharf.

General Post Office, Hongkong Club, German Club, Supreme Court, &c., within a stone's throw.

Launceston Club and Library, Shelley St. Government Offices, the Secretariat, &c., near the Public Gardens.

St. John's Cathedral (Anglican), above the Parade Ground.

Roman Catholic Cathedral, Wellington Street.

Union Church, Elgin Street.

St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, West Point.

St. Joseph's (R.C.) Church, Garden Road, near Kennedy Road.

Temperance Hall, specially adapted for sea-faring men, Queen's Road East.

Sailors' Home, West Point.

R. E. A. and China Telegraph Co., and the Great Northern Telegraph Co., Marine House, Queen's Road.

Masonic Hall, Zealand Street.

Victoria Recreation Club—Bath-house and Boat-house, &c.—Praya, beyond the Cricket Ground, beside the City Hall.

The Barracks and Naval and Military Store Departments lie to the eastward, and cover a large area.

Stores, Books, &c.

General Outfitter, Hosier, Tailor, &c.—T. N. Dunscombe, 45 and 47, Queen's Road, by special appointment to H.E. the Governor.

Chronometers, Watches, Jewellery, Maps and Charts.—G. FALCONER & CO., Queen's Road Central.

American and English Stores, Books, and specially selected Cigars.—MAC-LEOD, FRICKER & CO.

American Newspapers and cheap Reprints, &c., choice Tobacco and Cigars.—MOORE'S VANITY STORE, 42, Queen's Road.

Watches, Jewellery, Charts, Binoculars, Optical Instruments, Mordan's Pencil-cases, &c.—JOHN NOBLE, agent for Negretti & Zambra.

Guns, Rifles, Pistols, Ammunition, and Sporting Requisites of all descriptions.—WM. SCHMIDT & CO., Gun-makers, Eastern House of Beaconsfield Arcade.

Chair and Boat Hire.

LEGISLATIVE TARIFF OF FARES FOR CHAIRS, CHAIR BEARERS, AND BOATS, IN THE COLONY OF HONGKONG.

Chairs and Ordinary Pullaway Boats.

Half hour, 10 cts. 1 Hour, 20 cts. Three hours, 50 cts. Six hours, 70 cts. Day (from 6 to 6), One Dollar.

To VICTORIA PEAK.

Single Trip.

Four Coolies, 1.00 Three Coolies, 0.75 Two Coolies, 0.50 Return (direct or by Pok-foo-tum).

Four Coolies, 1.50 Three Coolies, 1.00 Two Coolies, 0.75 To VICTORIA GATE (TO LEVEL OF UMBRELLA SEAT).

Single Trip.

Four Coolies, 0.50 Three Coolies, 0.30 Two Coolies, 0.20 Return (direct or by Pok-foo-tum).

Four Coolies, 0.85 Three Coolies, 0.60 Two Coolies, 0.40 The latter fare embraces a trip of not more than three hours.

For every hour or part of an hour above three hours, each Coolie will be entitled to an additional payment of 5 cents.

Day Trip (Peak), 0.75 each Coolie. (12 hours) 1.00 per Coolie. Day Trip (Peak), 0.60 each Coolie. (12 hours) 0.80 per Coolie.

Licensed Bearers (each).

Hour, 10 cts. Half day, 35 cts. Day, 50 cts.

BOAT AND COOLIE HIRE.

BOATS.

1st Class Cargo Boat of 8 or 900 tons, per Day, 8.00 1st Class Cargo Boat of 8 or 900 tons, per Load, 2.00 2nd Class Cargo Boat of 600 tons, per Day, 2.50 2nd Class Cargo Boat of 600 tons, per Load, 1.75 3rd Class Cargo Boat or Ha-kau Boat of 800 tons, per Day, 1.50 3rd Class Cargo Boat or Ha-kau Boat of 800 tons, per Load, 1.00 3rd Class Cargo Boat or Ha-kau Boat of 800 tons, per Day, 1.00 3rd Class Cargo Boat or Ha-kau Boat of 800 tons, per Load, 0.50

Esquimaux.

or Pullaway Boats, per Day, 1.00 One Hour, 20 cts. Half-an-Hour, 10 cts. After 6 p.m., 10 cts extra.

Nothing in this Scale prevents private agreements.

SECTEE COOLIES.

Scale of Hire for Street Coolies.

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Visitors' Column.

We have instituted as an experiment a VISITORS' COLUMN, which we trust will prove successful, and be found useful. To it will be relegated from time to time such items of information, lists, tables and other intelligence as is considered likely to prove valuable to persons passing through the City, and in connection with we have opened a SELECT HOTEL AND BUSINESS DIRECTORY, applications for enrolment into which we are now ready to receive.

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